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3 New York Design Happenings to Check Out This Week

By Rachel Bashein

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ICAA's Breakfast & Books series will host designer Thomas Jayne on Feb 21 Photo: Kerri Brewer/Courtesy of Jayne Design Studio

Here's a roundup of the latest sales, interior-design events, and industry affairs in New York this week.

Steven Cohen Book Talk: The Sustainable City

On February 20, the Skyscraper Museum (39 Battery Pl., nr. 1st Pl.) will host Steven Cohen, executive director of Columbia University's Earth Institute, to [discuss](#) his book *The Sustainable City*. In it, Cohen examines urban systems from across the globe, surveying how advances in innovative urban infrastructure — like renewable energy, mass transit, waste management, and more — can be improved. He also explains why it's vital that cities lead the charge in promoting a sustainable lifestyle and growing a green economy. Admission is free, but RSVP is required.

ICAA Breakfast & Books Series with Thomas Jayne

The Institute of Classical Architecture & Art's Breakfast & Books Series will convene on Wednesday, February 21, for a [discussion](#) with classical scholar and AD100 designer Thomas Jayne of Jayne Design Studio, who will be discussing the Edith Wharton book *The Decoration of Houses*. The Breakfast & Books Series is organized in partnership with the Rizzoli Bookstore (1133 Broadway) and takes place at the shop before store hours. Light refreshments will be served, and books will be available for purchase following the presentation. Registration is free for ICAA members and \$30 for nonmembers.

A Global History of Switzerland in Objects

Noémie Etienne will give a Brown Bag Lunch [presentation](#) at the Bard Graduate Center (38 W. 86th St., nr. Columbus Ave.; lecture hall) on February 19 titled "Exoticizing in the Enlightenment: A Global History of Switzerland in Objects." Etienne is a professor at the University of Bern and a specialist in early modern art. She is currently leading a research project on exoticism in the Enlightenment. This talk will examine the current status of an exhibition curated by Etienne and to be held in 2020 as part of a larger research project on exoticism in the 17th and 18th centuries at the University of Bern. The intent of the exhibition is to reflect on how the Swiss constructed "Otherness" in the early-modern time period. Admission is free.

[Register online.](#)